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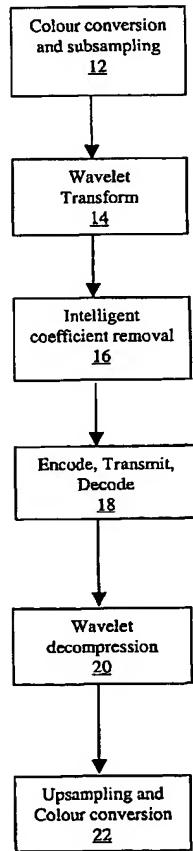
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(54) Title: DATA COMPRESSION FOR COLOUR IMAGES USING WAVELET TRANSFORM



(57) Abstract: The invention describes a wavelet compression method for colour converted image planes (Y, Cb and Cr), wherein a relatively low (e.g. zero) degree of compression is performed in areas of an original colour image having relatively higher importance, and a relatively higher degree of compression in those areas indicated to be of lower importance. It performs a hierarchical encoding of a reduced wavelet image by discarding wavelet coefficients which satisfy the two criteria of firstly corresponding to image areas of relatively lower importance and secondly being below a certain wavelet coefficient threshold. The wavelet coefficient threshold is determined from a calculation of cumulative histogram to remove a percentage of the image and can be specified as an input parameter by a user.

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	cited in the application abstract page 1, paragraph 12 page 3, paragraph 44 page 3, paragraph 47 page 16, paragraph 241 – paragraph 243; figure 8	10,20
Y	WO 97 16021 A (SARNOFF DAVID RES CENTER) 1 May 1997 (1997-05-01)	1-9, 11-19,21
A	abstract page 10, line 19 –page 11, line 8 page 11, line 17 – line 20	10,20
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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